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THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER SUPPLEMENT,

DEVOTED TO

THE UPHOLSTERY, CARPET AND FURNITURE TRADES.

VOL. VII., No. 5.

FEBRUARY, 1886.

\$1.50 PER YEAR.

The Decorator & Furnisher Supplement

WILLIAM HARDING ("COMMODORE ROBIN"), Editor.

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SUCCESS has attended our efforts. From all sides we receive congratulatory letters and well-wishes. The stand we have taken in keeping our columns clear of all scandal, "taffy," impolitic items, puffs and personalities, has met with the unanimous approval of the trades we represent. Our circulation, already ten thousand more than the actual number issued by any other paper in the trades, is constantly increasing. We thank our patrons for favors received, and shall endeavor to prove that we are worthy of their support.

THE TUMBLE IN EXTRA SUPERS.

The carpet world was startled, Jan. 23, by the announcement of a five-cent drop in Hartford Extra Supers, coming down from 67 1-2 to 62 1-2. I immediately called upon half a dozen of the leading manufacturers and jobbers, and then dropped in upon Mr. Reune Martin. From the former I gathered that the drop was a surprise, and many were ready to pronounce for a demoralized market. But cool reflection soon convinced the trade that the drop would not affect the market in the least. Lowells and others stood it as firm as rocks, and the tumble was forgotten in a few hours.

Mr. Martin would not give me his reason for the step taken. In the course of our conversation, however, he hinted that the drop was only a temporary one, and that a rise may follow. In any case, the five-cent thunderbolt did not do any harm; but it's easier to slide down a greasy pole than it is to climb up.

Later, January 26, I heard that Ivins, Dietz & Magee, had met the drop with a 2 1-2-cents break, a firm just starting in business, being the happy people who took the first goods on the new terms. This may or may not be true—I give it simply as an *ou dit*. Should there be any further news, I shall issue a second edition with full particulars.

It is claimed that the Hartford break has made buyers hold off until the last moment before securing their extra Supers. I think that this is a mistake, as the break is liable to be followed by a rise.

TO OUR ADVERTISERS.

We have a larger circulation than all the trade papers catering to your trades.

Don't expect seed to bear fruit in a night—or an advertisement to pull in a day.

You can't eat enough in a month to last a year—you can't advertise on that plan either.

A thing that is worth doing is worth doing well—goods worth advertising are worth advertising well.

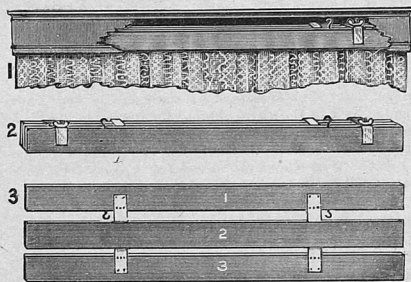
It pays best to pay less on rent and more on advertising.

THE PHILADELPHIA STRIKE.

A number of hand-loom ingrain carpet weavers, connected with Ivins, Dietz & Magee's factory, Boggs & White's, and other establishments, struck for one cent a yard for plain work, and one and a half cents for shaded or more difficult work. The employers refused the demand, and the employees "went out." This is only another instance or proof that employers must organize to meet their employees' organizations. The employees on strike are from the mills of Robert Alexander, A. Briswanger, William McDowell, Boggs & White, E. C. Reed, Robert Carson, Daniel Curry, Hugh Nelson, Knights, Hoetich & Ashbridge, H. McAllister, Watt Bros., Turkington, Ross & Getty, John Smith, Culbertson, Shoemaker, R. Givins, J. P. Graham, Henderson & Keifer, William Jackson, Judge Brothers, John Watt, Thomas Leedom, George Carson, David Jamison, E. Sonneborn, Isaac Lockhard, Redpaths and David McDowell. As we go to press, a compromise was momentarily expected.

PAY YOUR JUST DEBTS.

Business men should pay their debts at maturity—but many of them neglect to do so. Few fully realize the fact that every man who fails to pay his creditors adds so much to the burden of other citizens. Every business man does his best to straighten out his business—therefore, if he gets a run of bad debts, the amount lost has to be added on to something in order to straighten out the balance at the end of the year. Many persons are perfectly able to pay but neglect to do so—they put it off until the last moment—until forced to do so. This is rank injustice and unfair dealing. In these days of close competition a manufacturer or jobber has to figure down to bottom prices and he cannot afford to drum a customer for his indebtedness. The markets would be in a much healthier condition if the average business man would admit and act up to the plan of paying just debts upon maturity and not waiting until a dozen gentle reminders have been forwarded in his direction.



CURTAIN HOLDER. (SEE PAGE 8.)

A WORD TO THE AGED.

"The New York World publishes what it calls an authoritative statement of Mr. Cleveland's tariff policy, which is briefly stated as follows: A modification of existing laws and the reorganization of the tariff upon a revenue basis, with incidental protection.

"The *Age* is glad to hear this, glad to know that the President is in harmony with the Randall Democrats and the Chicago platform on the tariff question. But when we read in the same issue of the *World* that it is understood that Secretary Manning believes in enlarging the free list so as to admit the raw materials necessary to the principal manufactures of the country, we very much regret to hear this. Pray, what raw materials necessary to the principal manufactures of the country does the Secretary propose to admit free of duty?"—*Birmingham Age*.

To commence with, the *Birmingham Age* can safely bet its last dollar that when the New York *World* claims to publish an authoritative statement, that such statement can be relied upon.

Secondly, we should like to enlighten the *Age* to the utmost of our ability, but have only space to inform it that in answer to its question "what raw materials necessary to the principal manufactures of the country does the Secretary propose to admit free of duty?" that free raw materials used in the manufacture of carpets and upholstery are necessary to the "principal manufactures of the country." The *Age* is evidently away behind the age, and does not seem to be aware of the fact that the carpet and upholstery industries of the U. S. are included in the "principal manufactures" of the country. At the same time, while we are in favor of free raw materials, we are as strongly opposed to any reduction in the tariff on manufactured goods.

AGENTS WANTED.

We require the services of a first-class agent and representative correspondent in every city in the United States. Must be connected with some leading firm. Handsome remuneration, and liberty to use full name or *nom de plume* to his correspondence. For further particulars, address the Editor of this department.

The Treasury Department has denied the application of Rev. Ladislaus Grabowski, of Polonia, Wisconsin, made to the President for the free entry of a confessional and other articles imported at New York for the use of his church. The articles in question consist of tulle in the piece, embroidered in metal, chandeliers, with lustred crystals of glass and finished materials for the construction of the confessionals. It is held that these articles are not embraced in any of the provisions of the free list, exempting regalia, statuary, etc., imported for religious societies, from payment.

The Treasury Department is to be commended for such action. Tulle in the piece, embroidered with metal, chandeliers and finished materials for the construction of confessionals can be had of many of our home merchants and while I advocate free raw materials, I draw the line at free finished materials, even for the use of Rev. Ladislaus Grabowski. The next thing the Reverend gentleman would want, if this request had been granted, would be free carpets, curtains and furniture for his church and residence. I respect all churches, but so long as we have a Protective tariff, our merchants must get the benefit of it.

CHATS IN THE TRADE.

I UNDERSTAND that Schofield, Mason & Co. have come to an arrangement with Mr. Talbot, by which the latter renews his contract with Schofield, Mason & Co. for the period of three years. I must congratulate both parties to the contract. I suppose that Messrs. Schofield, Mason & Co. are now the second largest manufacturers of Brussels in the country.

THERE seems to be a very hopeful feeling in the carpet trade, in spite of the recent cut in extra supers. Mr. Martin, with John and James Dobson, said to me, shortly after prices were cut by the Hartford company:

"I haven't the least fear that the cut will occur in any other line than extra supers. The Hartford Company were unfortunate enough to place their list prices too high at the opening of the season. When they had exhausted their regular trade, they found their goods were a drug on the market when brought in competition with lower-priced goods. Then they made a cut of five cents, and that carried them two and one-half cents below other dealers; and on the first announcement the break caused some uneasiness, but that has passed now.

"I was talking to-day with a jobber from Philadelphia, and he told me that the cut had undoubtedly reached its limit. I consider him the voice of the trade there, and that is why I feel sure that no other line of goods will feel the break."

MR. HEMPHILL, of Hemphill, Hamlin & Co., with whom I had the pleasure of a chat recently, tells me that he has at present no intention of opening a Philadelphia office, a desire to that effect having been attributed to him. Mr. Hemphill would not pronounce an opinion upon the Hartford tumble.

MR. WOOD, representing George W. Ennis & Co., tells me that Mr. Ennis is still on the sick list, and unable to attend to business. I am sorry for it—many more genial companions than the same "Geo. W." it has not been my pleasure to meet.

RIDGELY & Co., curtains, have moved from 79 and 81 Worth to 75 and 77 in the same street. The last time I called the moving process was proceeding, and I met a black-bearded fiend who was too surly to answer a polite question, in spite of the fact that my \$200 overcoat was spoiled in climbing the stairs.

THE "carriage days" have commenced, according to Mr. Walsh, of Heywood Brothers, and will continue until April. So the babies are to be perambulated, and pater and mater familias must pay the penalty.

MR. WHELOCK, of Nelson, Matter & Co., is not in favor of sending American furniture to the American Exhibition in London in 1887. He says that it would not pay; the expense would be too great, and the Londoners would not buy the goods, as our styles are not theirs, and we have no time to educate them up to it.

MR. WILLIAM D. SLOANE and Mrs. Sloane have offered to build and equip a maternity hospital on a part of the land given by Mr. Vanderbilt as the site of a new building for the College of Physicians and Surgeons. The institution is to be known as the Sloane Maternity. The board of managers selected are: William D. Sloane, representing the givers; Cornelius Vanderbilt, representing the college trustees; Dr. John C. Dalton, President of the college, and Drs. James W. McLane and Francis Delafield, representing the faculty.

WHEN I glance at some of the weak-kneed utterings of certain periodicals, I cannot help smiling, and recall Brillat Savarin's famous announcement: "When I write 'I' or 'me' in the singular, I am merely gossiping with the reader, who may examine, discuss, doubt, and even laugh; but when I am equipped with theoreduous ttable 'we,' I am a professor, and every one must give in."

THE best of us cannot always escape calumny. According to a daily paper, Sam Jones, the "revivalist," and Sam Small, his convert, were caught in a recent snow-storm when on their way to Cincinnati, and rumor had it in many papers that these two gentlemen secured a basket of provisions, took it into their state-room, locked the door, and disposed of the provender without offering anyone a crumb. Sam Jones pronounces the story a libel, and thinks that it was circulated by a "red-faced, red-whiskered, red-nosed, red-headed carpet drummer from Cincinnati." Does anybody know this much-abused drummer? If so, please forward me his name, as I should like to have his version of the affair.

There is a good time coming for lace men to all appearances. A "Mauve dinner" was recently given at a fashionable uptown residence. The cloth was of lace, through which a delicate lining of mauve silk was visible. The light shone through dainty shades of the same color, ornamented with wreaths of lilacs and silver lace. The napkins were bordered with lace, the flowers consisted of orchids and deep-tinted lilacs; in a word, the entire supper effect was mauve.

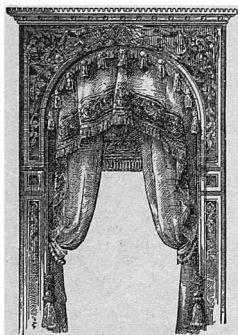
I MET Mr. T. J. Keveney recently, after his return from his two weeks' trip, and he speaks most highly of the success he has had with the Brussels Tapestry Co.'s goods. I was glad to hear that the Nepaul Silk Mills (Stead & Miller) will be able to fill all orders, in spite of the fire, and that a fine new building, to be completed in July, is already in course of preparation.

I ADVISE all my friends to examine Applegate's Electric Alarm Matting. It's well worth seeing. The basis of the system consists of an invisible electric matting placed under the carpet or other floor covering, which, when trod upon or touched by the foot, instantly sounds an alarm or signal in any part of the building. It's invaluable, especially against burglars and naughty babbys who creep into the house in the early hours of the morning.

THE Wakefield Rattan Co., of Boston, Mr. Daniel Dunne, agent, have introduced a reed chair which promises to have a wide sale. It is made of the pith of the rattan, and the effect is very delicate and artistic. The company are at present filling large orders for screen doors for the coming summer. Window shades of rattan are in demand for summer cottages at Newport, Long Branch, and other watering resorts.

MR. BARLOW STEVENS, the Duane street oil-cloth dealer, feels well satisfied with the trade improvement of the last few months. "We found business even better than last fall," said his representative to me, recently; "there seems to be a steady gain, not only with our house, but with all in the street. It looks to us as though good times were not far off. Collections are easy, and we have nothing of which to complain. There is a great deal in the general confident feeling among merchants which will help to give buoyancy to the slowly progressing improvement."

ALDEN, SAMPSON & Co., of Reade street, oil-cloths, are credited by their competitors with having a boss designer of their own, thus enabling them to turn out a great variety of original and pretty patterns.



FORTIERE IN THE NEW MUSEUM, AMSTERDAM.

W. & J. SLOANE's upholstery departments are doing nicely. In the retail department I recently met an old acquaintance in the person of Mr. W. A. Briggs, formerly with B. L. Solomon's Sons, that gentleman having resigned in order to take his present position. Mr. Briggs was kind enough to show me, among other rich goods, two Goblin tapestry designs for a sofa, almost as good as those coming from the French Government works; exquisite finish—and only \$1,000 for the two. An embroidered and appliqué curtain, the appliqué work being especially fine, at \$450 a pair—"dirt cheap." But the most unique piece of goods was an Eastern portière-embroidered with shell fringe used on Arabian saddles, the ground work being Capucine silk plush—\$500 a pair. The wholesale or jobbing department of the upholstery floor is also doing well, and I hope soon to have definite news of the fine tapestry manufactory; at present, in spite of all reports to the contrary, nothing is definitely settled.

In an elegant little up-town studio, I was recently shown an oil painting that is soon to be presented to a prominent carpet manufacturer. It will probably be named "A Passing Squall," and represents Castle Head and the Old Maid Rock, off the Mount Desert coast. The water effect is admirable; and the sky, troubled by the passing squall, has been admired by some most distinguished artists. The initials, "G. C. W.," may be found in a corner of the canvas.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD, Premier of Canada, whose name has been mentioned in connection with the reported carpet factory at Toronto, reached this city January 18, per S. S. Oregon. On the following day I called upon him at his hotel, and asked him if there was any truth in the carpet factory report. Sir John received me in the most pleasant manner possible, but declined to give any details on that subject, neither denying nor admitting that he was interested in such an enterprise. He was warm in his praise of the rapid strides made by our home manufacturers, and laughed when I hinted that, with free raw materials, we might soon be knocking at Old England's doors with our cheaper grades of upholstery and carpeting. Sir John impressed me as being one of those iron-willed men of the Gladstone type, but gifted with even greater inflexibility of purpose than England's "Grand Old Man."

THE last time I dropped in upon W. H. Fletcher & Co., they were showing some of the recent importations to a number of lace-curtain buyers. Mr. F. has evidently made a profitable trip to England, for his lines of cheap lace curtains are hard to beat, and in the higher lines he has hundreds of beauties to choose from. "Cupid" was away, charming the Western houses, but his return is looked forward to by a number of friends—myself among the number, for "Cupid" always brings me a pile of news.

RECENTLY I had the pleasure of passing through Mills & Gibb's curtain department, and noticed some exquisite goods at low prices; a Bulgarian striped curtain, at twenty cents a yard, being the very thing for bedrooms and dining-rooms. The New Mikado, another novelty, and then came some of Manager Horner's latest, all baptized by that gentleman; so far as I can remember their names, they are: Mylara, Mecca, Candahar, Damascus, Mysore, Koran. Other beauties were named Benares, Bangalore, Montigny, Umrizter, Shanghai, Koonan, Tabrez and Rangoon. Some double-faced cretonnes, not requiring lining, and other remarkably cheap goods, are bound to have a ready sale, for the prices are such that no window need be without a curtain.

AN improvement in alarm and awakening bedsteads has been patented by Adolph Nordham, of San Francisco, Cal. That reminds me of the poor fellow over in Brooklyn who rigged up an alarm over his bedstead, some three weeks ago. He fixed a weight by a cord to the ceiling, and at a certain hour his alarm clock let the weight drop behind his bed, making noise enough to awake Brother Harris. Well, one fine evening, this ingenious gentleman—not Brother H., but the man with the patent alarm—had a convivial gathering at his residence, in the course of which he convived so much that he had to be carried to bed. The convivers, resolving to have a little fun, shifted the bed, set the alarm and weight, arranging matters so that the latter, at the hour fixed upon, would fall upon the convivee's chest. But they miscalculated the distance, and the weight fell upon the convivial man's head, killing him instantly. So much for patent alarms.

Commodore G. H. Smith, Treasurer of the Union Carpet Lining Company, is, as usual, at the Tremont House and much improved in health; in fact, "Richard's himself again."—*Carpet Trade and Review*. N. B.—I always credit a good item of news when I see it.

I was recently in company with a gentleman from New Zealand and he told me that the Auckland Fiber Manufacturing Company are making some very fine matting from New Zealand flax. He also showed me specimens of fiber made from the bark of the native shrub, "Coprosma Linealis." A fine display of worsted yarns and fabrics is made by the Kaipoi Woolen Manufactory. He also had in his possession samples of raw silk from worms reared and fed in Auckland. New Zealand and Australia will be heard from in the near future.

THEY are telling a good story about a certain carpet man whose office is not far from Worth Street and Broadway. This is the way I had it: The party was discussing absent-mindedness—and something else, at Willey's, when the gentleman in question said: "A case of absent-mindedness occurred to me only yesterday; I went into a wine-room, called for a whiskey, at the same time laying down a five-dollar bill. The bartender set out a bottle and my change, there was no cashier, and I'll be hanged, gentlemen, if I didn't put the change in my pocket, and walked out without drinking the whiskey." The rest of the party gazed sorrowfully at the absent-minded carpet man, and, in a dazed sort of way, slowly dispersed.

ONE of our distinguished contemporaries has run out of adjectives—this is a serious disaster to the trades—but when Mr. L. L. Smith reads the following "silvery-tongued" item, he will doubtless feel consoled:

Mr. H. W. Bisbee, formerly with Jordan, Marsh & Co., but whom the silvery-tongued L. L. Smith induced to go to Omaha to take charge of his carpet department and who yet remains there with S. F. Morse & Co., Smith's successors, has been a buyer in Gotham, Philadelphia and Boston for his department in Omaha, which since Morse & Co. have been his employers has been greatly enlarged, and which under Mr. Bisbee's management bids fair to be an important factor in the carpet trade in and about Omaha.—*Carpet Trade and Review*.

FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY ITEMS.

MR. FREDERICK GOODYER, of Nottingham, England, has patented a window curtain having an extension at one end, fashioned from side to side so as to form a lambrequin, the latter being made in one continuous piece with the curtain, while a continuous border extends around both the curtain and the lambrequin.

THANKS to an over-heated stove, Brooks & Co.'s furniture store, 4 Sands street, Brooklyn, suffered a loss of \$13,000 by fire and water, Jan. 5. Covered by insurance.

MR. DAVID W. JOHNS, of New Albany, Ind., has patented a saw-sharpening machine. It has a rotary cutter, or file, with a notch in its edge, a plate being held at one end on the disk and extending diagonally across the recess with a screw for adjusting the pitch of the plate, and other novel features, the device being adapted for sharpening all kinds of saws, straight and circular.

MR. JAMES S. PIPER, of Gardner, Mass., has patented a platform rocker. The seat, back and arm-rests are formed of bent wood, the back-rest bars extending down below the seat and having their lower ends secured on a curved runner, which has its front bent up to the under side of the seat, then extends along the under side and is bent down to the runner at the rear end of the seat, all on a platform with bent ends forming feet.

MR. C. M. MEDICUS has made some important improvements in his handsome building, 49 DeKalb avenue, and opens the new year with a fine stock of parlor suites.

MR. ALBERT D. FIELD, manager of the Globe Extension Curtain Pole Co., says that the new invention continues to grow in popular favor. They are busy shipping to all parts of the country.

C. M. MEDICUS' parlor goods will soon be shown on Canal street.

THE American Exhibition in London, England, next year, promises to be a success. It is hoped that our furniture men may not be last on the list of those to display interest in the matter.

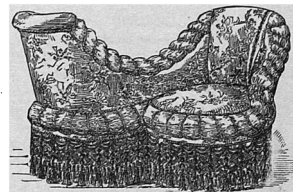
The New York Lumbermen held a second meeting, Jan. 13, at the Grand Central Hotel to discuss the advisability of organizing a Lumbermen's Exchange. A. T. Decker presided and J. D. Cray acted as Secretary. It was finally resolved that a Lumbermen's Business Exchange be organized. A committee was appointed on by-laws, constitution, place of meeting and solicitation of new members.

Beck, Bransford & Ekdahl's furniture factory, Union City, Tenn., was burned Jan. 5. Loss, \$50,000. Insurance, \$11,000.

A sheet-music holder has been patented by Mr. Gerard C. Scott, of Bradford, Pa. Combined with a back and two coverings thereto is a stepped strip held on one cover parallel with the free edge, with spring fingers projecting from the strip to hold sheets of various sizes.

THE Furniture Travelers' Association held its third annual reunion at Young's Hotel, Jan. 7. The following officers were elected: President, J. W. P. Dyer; Vice-presidents, Samuel J. Harrison, Walter J. Stearns, Jr.; Secretary and Treasurer, O. D. Baker; Executive Committee, C. E. Cummings, Frank Lane, Fred. S. Belding; Committee of Arrangements, James Dee, Fred. H. Wildes, James Hill.

THOMAS F. KAUGHAN & Co., 809 Broadway, dry goods and upholstery, assigned Jan. 7.



TETE-A-TETE.

M. S. WILLIS, formerly a salesman with the Keelers is now a member of the firm of Willis & Pinkham, of Worcester. Mr. Pinkham is the son of the late J. S. Pinkham, the Worcester carpet dealer.

DELL & JOS. C. NOBLIT & Co.'s warehouse, Philadelphia, was entered by burglars, January 13, and about \$600 worth of satin damasks disappeared.

THERE has been a change in the firm of Groves, Thompson & Groves, Philadelphia. The firm is now Groves, Wilson & Groves, the members being William Groves, senior, Alexander Wilson, and William Groves, junior. They will carry on the furniture and draperies business. Mr. J. R. Thompson will devote his energies to the carpet trade. Both firms continue on Market street.

A NEW furniture club is to be established in Boston.

ROBERT MCKINLEY, the New York representative of F. Geldowsky, died, Jan. 17, in the New York Hospital. He was formerly in the chair manufacturing business on Twenty-second street.

A NUMBER of cabinet factories at Belleville, Paris, were destroyed by fire, January 21. Several bodies were taken from the ruins.

MR. E. F. SEIDEL, of Seidel & Schoenle, St. Louis, has purchased Mr. Schoenle's interest in the firm, and will continue the business at the old stand, 212 and 214 South Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.



SADDLE-BAG WORK TABLE.

MR. SIEGFRIED E. CLAUSSEN, of Portland, Ore., has patented an extension table having a roller section with a metallic frame having arms. A cross-bar connects the inner ends of the arms, a roller is journaled in the arms with extension slides joined together, forming a series or chain, connected at its other end with the cross-bar of the roller-supporting frame.

GEORGE H. GEOHEGAN & Co., of Chicago, furniture dealers, were closed by the sheriff Jan. 8.

MR. S. R. BALL, of Ball & Co., paper hangers and decorators, Broadway, has sold out his Wilmington establishment to J. C. Finn & Son, Philadelphia.

WILLIAM H. PANGBURN, of W. M. Whitney & Co., Albany, N. Y., died Jan. 1, at his home in that city.

CARPET JOTTINGS.

THE dry-goods clerks and salesmen of Pittsburgh seem determined to carry out their intention of organizing a union for the purpose of protecting wages and establishing a uniform system of working hours. As we have previously stated, it's about time that manufacturers and merchants took some steps towards "protecting" themselves. The editor of this department will be pleased to receive suggestions upon this subject from manufacturers and others interested.

THE five-story building, corner of Water and Vine streets, Philadelphia, occupied by Mr. Jewett, manufacturer of burlaps and bags, took fire Jan. 9. Loss \$100,000.

MR. John Clafin, of H. B. Clafin & Co., has been elected a trustee of Plymouth Church.

A CARPET DEALER BURNED OUT.

Just as we go to press, a telegram from Elmira, N. Y., informs us that E. H. Dormane's large dry-goods and carpet store was burned January 29, late at night. The loss on stock is about \$40,000; on building, \$8,000.

TEMPLETON's carpet factory, Glasgow, Scotland, was destroyed by fire January 28; loss about \$150,000.

MR. L. V. D. HARDENBERGH, of Hardenbergh and King, Brooklyn, has been appointed Tax Collector.

THE Waring Manufacturing Company, of Yonkers, N. Y., are putting in ten new tapestry and velvet looms.

MR. WILLIAM E. WEBB has been admitted to partnership in the firm of Dunham, Buckley & Co., New York.

A. L. WRIGHT & Co., carpets, Indianapolis, Ind., are financially embarrassed and continue in business up to Feb. 1, the proceeds of sales being deposited in a bank to the credit of a trustee, Mr. N. S. Byram.

LET a good showing of American carpeting be made at the American Exhibition in London, 1887, and it will be seen that we are not so far behind as is generally supposed by the average English manufacturer.

MR. DUBOISE, of Chamberlin, Johnson & Co., Atlanta, Ga., and Mr. M. Rich, of M. Rich & Bro., Atlanta, were greeted on their arrival a few days ago. Another Southern buyer who found many old friends in New York is Mr. Baruch, of Wittkowski & Baruch, Charlotte, N. C.

MR. SPANGLER, of St. Paul, is East sampling and buying.

MR. RICE, buyer for Auerbach, Finch & Van Slyck, of St. Paul, is on his Eastern tour, and recently spent several days among his New York friends.

SECRETS THAT MUST BE KEPT.

Chancellor Runyon decided a case in Trenton, N. J., Jan. 7, which is of unusual interest to carpet and furniture manufacturers, notwithstanding all others engaged in the manufacture of goods. The court was asked to restrain a man from divulging a secret. The complainant, Rudolph G. Solomon, of Newark, claims to have discovered valuable secrets in connection with the manufacture of cordovan leather and for coloring kangaroo, alligator and snake skins. He has been engaged in the business about eight years and employed his bookkeeper and superintendent, Hertz and Adolph, with the understanding that they were not to divulge the secrets of the business. Hertz and Adolph, after learning his methods, made arrangements with two strangers to go into business in Newark and compete with Solomon.

"That the fact set up in the bill entitled the complainant to relief, admits of no question," said the Chancellor. "A discoverer of a secret process of manufacture, whether patentable or not, has property therein. The case is simple upon the bill and answer, and although the defendants deny the fact set up in the bill, if the injunction be dissolved the secrets would become known, and an irreparable injury done to the complainant." The defendants were also forced to agree not to divulge where Solomon buys his material and where he sells his leather. This agreement the Chancellor regards as binding only during the term of employment and no injunction in regard to that will issue. The defendants are, however, restrained from using the secret process of which the complainant is the discoverer.



ORIGINAL DESIGN FOR RUG; SPECIALLY DRAWN FOR "THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER."

OUR SPECIAL DESIGNS.

With the present issue of the *Wholesale Department of THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER*, is published the first of a series of designs for carpets, rugs and oil-cloths, which is freely offered—as a suggestion only, but one that can be freely adopted. No. 1 is a heraldic motif, and should be shaded as follows:

- A.—Shield in warm slate drabs.
- B.—Bright golden browns (3 shades).
- C.—Brown-red (two shades).
- D.—Green-blue (two shades).
- E.—Scarlet shades.
- F.—Scroll in light-brown olives (outlined with black).
- G.—Deep carmine ground.
- H.—Deep peacock blue.
- I.—Mid. peacock blue.
- J.—Old gold.
- K.—Mid. crimson.
- L.—Olive fig.
- M.—Light and mid. oak browns.

Black outline to all figures. Minor details as desired.

MR. Ludwig Pfaff, of San Francisco, Cal., has patented an apparatus for dyeing. The fabric to be dyed is wound around a perforated tube, a perforated cylinder surrounding the fabric, and top and bottom pieces covering the ends of the cylinder of fabric, the whole to be placed in a vat and dyeing liquid forced up through the bottom of the tube, passing through the fabric and dropping through the outer cylinder into the vat.

EHRIK BROTHERS have taken steps to build at Nos. 361 to 371 Sixth Avenue, 110 and 112 West Twenty-third Street and 109 to 117 West Twenty-second Street. The new departure will cost in the neighborhood of \$300,000.

MR. LARA, of M. Lara & Co., Minneapolis, Minn., was in New York, last week, buying for his house.

MR. J. P. BABCOCK, of Booneville, N. Y., was recently buying in New York.

MR. Sisson, of Sisson Bros. & Welden, Binghamton, N. Y., was recently in the New York market.

MR. MARTIN, of Martyn Bros., Jamestown, N. Y., was in the city last week.

AMONG the well-known buyers who came in last week was Mr. Frank Burke, of Barnes, Hengeler & Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

MANY of the best-known Western dealers in carpets reached New York last week, among them being Mr. Miller, of Miller Bros. & Co., Evansville, Ind., and Mr. Diehl and his brother, of Akron, O., formerly of Diehl & Caskey.

AMONG the New York State buyers in the city recently was Mr. Converse, of Donald, Converse & Maynard, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

MR. BEGGS, of Bowe & Beggs, Columbus, O., was recently buying in New York.

MR. GARMAN, of Van Arsdele & Garman, Dayton, O., was welcomed, last week, by his friends in the carpet trade.

SAMUEL SHIREK, of Chicago, was accompanied to New York, last week, by his brother, of Shirek & Co., San Francisco, Cal.

MR. BOLTON, of Bolton & Neely, New Haven, was in New York last week.

REPRODUCING IMPERFECTIONS.

Examinations made of the painted windows of the old Cathedrals of England and Continental Europe, show that their superiority really consists in the inferiority of the glass, its richness in the poverty of its constituents and in the imperfection of its surface and its body, covered, as they are, by the dust of ages and honeycombed by the effects of time. But it is not only in painted glass that the reproduction of imperfections is being carried on successfully. It is the case in most articles of interior decoration; but at the same time it must be admitted that the imperfections of ancient days were in many cases preferable to the perfections of to-day.

EDWARD RIDLEY & SONS, of Grand street, say they have filled the places of the furniture and carpet salesmen who recently left there. One of the firm said to a representative of *THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER*, a day or two ago: "It all turned upon the discharge of one man whom we did not care to retain in our employ. When he was given notice to leave, we were waited upon by a committee which, I believe, represented their union; and, as we would not take the discharged salesman again into our employ, they said they would all leave. We have found no difficulty in filling their places, and I doubt very much whether we would take any of them back."

On December 10 the carpet and rug works on Mill Street, Kidderminster, which formerly belonged to Messrs. Benjamin Woodward & Co., and which have since been carried on by a limited liability company, were put up to public auction by Mr. Joseph Elgood. We understand that the works, and afterwards the whole of the loose plant and stock-in-trade were purchased by Alderman William Green, J. P., of Kidderminster.—*London Furniture Gazette*.

TRADE OPINIONS.

H. Diblee & Co., Chicago, state that the aim of manufacturers of chairs for offices and public buildings, as shown by the spring styles, combines the maximum of strength with a minimum of material, so far as consistent with gracefulness of form. Backs are no longer solid, they claim, and if there is a solid center the remaining space is filled up with open turnery work.

In the folds of window drapery and the draping now introduced with fine effect on picture frames, especially where showy interiors are desired, it is advisable to keep the folds nearly straight and to obtain the required bend in the material by a series of angular intersections or breaks in the folds. Albert Durer was in the habit of studying his drapery from models made with wet paper, which he copied in all its stiffness and irregularity.

A plastic preparation for indented and relief work on walls and ceilings and to which a metallic luster in different shades is given by the peroxide of various metals, chiefly consists of white lead and lime mixed together. The composition is either directly applied to the plaster surface of the wall or laid on canvas, which is subsequently attached. Some fine effects are reached by diapered combings in gold, brown, and copper colors. The corridors of the new Illinois State House are to be thus decorated by Messrs. Mitchell & Halbach, of Chicago.

Mr. C. C. Holton, Chicago, states that, in parlor furniture, constructive elegance of style, free from extreme elaboration in the way of carving, or other fanciful forms, will be more popular than ever. The eagerness to possess something new or original in a set has given place to just judgment for what is good, whether new or old. Contrasts of different materials in furniture covering are avoided, according to the same authority.

Messrs. Mow & Co., of Chicago, claim that carved wood mantels in combination with artistic tiles will continue to gain public favor, as the hard woods may be selected to match any style of decoration.

PROFITS IN ENGLISH CARPETING.

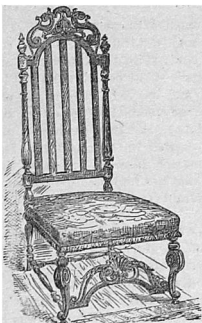
The twenty-first yearly meeting of shareholders of John Crossley and Sons (Limited), was held in the Dean Clough Institute Jan. 6. There was a good attendance of shareholders. Mr. Edward Crossley, M. P., Chairman of the company, presided, and there were also present Messrs. L. J. Crossley, G. Marchetti and John Leach, directors.

Mr. John Leach, Secretary to the Directors, read the report and balance sheet for the year ended Dec. 5. The accounts showed assets amounting to £1,906,939 7s. 2d. The profits for the year, including £10,459 15s. 7d. brought forward from last year, were £90,358 10s. 5.; and the dividends proposed were the same as last year, viz., 7 per cent. for the year, the balance carried forward being £7,400 12s. 5d. The reserve fund continues at £204,962 12s. 5d. The report was adopted.

The Chairman next moved, "That in addition to the interim dividend of five shillings per share, there be now declared a dividend of nine shillings per share, less income tax, as and for the half year ended the 5th day of December, 1885; that the same be payable to the registered shareholders of the company on and after the 4th day of February next, and that the sum of £7,400 12s. 5s. be carried forward to next year's account." He said:

The conditions of trade, so far as we are concerned, may be said to be very similar to what they were last year. We have the satisfaction of knowing that we have been able to maintain our position during the past year. When we look round and see how much depression there is, for instance, in the agricultural business, affecting the home trade, and how many difficulties there are in making large profits at the present time, I think we may congratulate ourselves. I do not pretend to prophesy, and would not wish to do so, as to what the future may be; but I hope we may never be worse than we have been in the past. I believe that the arrangements of the company were never so good as they are at the present time, and I believe the business is in as active a condition, and as ready to meet the demands of the trade as ever it has been.

Mr. John Moodie seconded the resolution, which was passed.



OLD DUTCH CHAIR IN THE NEW MUSEUM AT AMSTERDAM.

THE MATCHLESS CURTAIN-HOLDER.

(See illustration on first page of Supplement.)

Messrs. Nevius & Haviland have placed a novelty on the market in the shape of a contrivance for hanging lace, Madras, and other light-weight curtains. It consists of three strips of wood, secured to each other by elastic web. The curtain is laid upon the slats in plaits, as may be desired; the slats are then folded over upon each other, and fastened together by adjustable clasps. It can be hung back of a cornice, and secured to it by simple screw-eyes. This does away entirely with nails, hooks and screws.

The curtains are easily put up and taken down; can be

removed whenever the room is swept, if desired. There is no necessity for cutting the curtains, as the construction of the holder, with its extension clasps, makes it very easy to fold over and out of the way any surplus length. The Matchless Curtain-Holder can be made very simply to be used in connection with a cornice, or can be made as ornate as may be desired, to take the place of a cornice or pole.

The prices vary with the construction of the Holder. These goods are sold to the trade.

A FRENCH upholstery dealer, of Lyons, who died recently, ended his will in the following manner: "I desire that my body be placed in the hands of men of science, and that it may be carefully dissected, for I am determined to know the cause of my death."

A CARPET MERCHANT'S COLLECTION.

Herr Theodor Graf, the Persian carpet merchant of the Schiller-platz, Vienna, who treated for the purchase of Archduke Rénier's papyri in Egypt, and brought that valuable collection to Austria, has just completed a unique collection of Egyptian woolen and linen cloths. It includes more than 300 specimens, dating from the fourth to the ninth centuries, and all in good preservation. The collection is for sale, and would be a useful acquisition for the museum of any city where cloth is manufactured. The specimens have almost all been excavated from tombs, and it took many years to collect, sort and clean them. They are stitched on to large and small folios of card-board, with fly-leaves to preserve them from dust, and every fragment can be easily and closely examined. Some of the fragments are only a foot square, but the larger specimens comprise an entire Roman toga, said to be the only one extant, with purple *clavi*, and a great many embroidered dresses. The collection is most interesting as showing not only samples of cloth textures in every variety, but also of knitting, crewel-work and needlework. That which ladies call the double-chain stitch seems to have been as familiar to the Egyptian seamstresses, sewing with bone needles, as it is to the workers of the modern sewing-machine. The details of some of the garments seem, further, to prove once again that there is very little new under the sun. There is a chemise of the sixth century which might be mistaken for a modern jersey of navy-blue serge, and it is curious to find that the common blue check pattern of English household dusters and workhouse aprons was in general use among the Egyptians more than a thousand years ago.

WATER FOR THE DRY-GOODS DISTRICT.

The Sinking Fund Commissioners, Jan. 9, accepted the report of Comptroller Loew, Chamberlain IVins and Recorder Smyth, accepting the propositions of the New York Water Company for increasing the water supply in the dry-goods district. The Water Company propose to use larger mains than those now in use and to serve the water under pressure sufficient to force it to the top of the highest building. The water is to be obtained by pumping from wells to be constructed by the company.

The company expect to expend \$1,500,000, and to charge the city 10 per cent. of the cost for ten years. If the water supply fails, the city pays nothing.

THE COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS' ASSOCIATION.

The fourteenth annual session of the Commercial Travelers' Association was called to order at the Wieting Opera House, Jan. 12. Delegations were present from New York, Brooklyn, Albany, Troy, Utica, Elmira, Binghamton, Buffalo and other towns. The following officers were elected:

President, James H. Eaton, Syracuse. Secretary and Treasurer, J. Will. Page, of Syracuse. Members of the Executive Committee, Warren L. Ross, Riley V. Miller and Frank Diel. Trustees, Dennis Kennedy and Jackson Perry. The election of the first Vice-President was the occasion of some excitement. The ballot resulted as follows: H. N. Fuller, of New York, 140; T. A. Young, of Rochester, 102. The Rochester delegation then nominated Mr. Young for second Vice-President, but that gentlemen declared that he would not accept. Mr. Young then left the hall, followed by the New York delegation, about seventy in number. A. B. Dumont, of Brooklyn, was elected second Vice-President.

GAMMADISULPHONIC ACID OF BETANAPHTHOL.

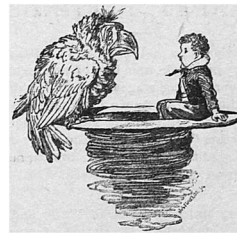
(A bluish-red shade dye for silk or wool.)

No, sir! We have no sinister designs upon your peace of mind. We were simply about to state under that heading, that a dye-stuff made from diazo-naphthaline has been patented by Mr. Meinhard Hoffman, of Mankur, near Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany. It is a new form of the "jaw-breaking" gamma-disulphonic acid of betanaphthol, whose manner of preparation has been the subject of a recent patent; it is characterized by its great tendency to crystallize, and is adapted for dyeing wool, silk and other materials a brilliant bluish-red shade.

THE PHILADELPHIA FIRE.

A FIRE visited Philadelphia, January 10, and did \$1,000,000 damage. As the matter is now ancient history, I will simply state that two blocks of buildings devoted to the textile manufacturing interests, Stead & Miller's and Joseph Hodgson's buildings were entirely destroyed, but the firms have been able to make arrangements by which all their orders will be filled. Stead & Miller had nearly seventy power-looms, and were running to their full capacity. Their loss is about \$125,000; insurance about \$100,000. Joseph Hodgson's loss was about \$35,000; insurance \$27,000. Geo. Drake Smith & Co. are their selling agents.

Mr. L. Hirsch, of L. Hirsch & Brother, is expecting to secure a French burl that will knock all his other monsters into the shade.



A CONUNDRUM.

"I'm a cockalorum!" said a certain antiquated editor, when he noticed that a young and healthy competitor was in the field. The young and healthy competitor, on the right, is our humble self. Who is the cockalorum?

THE WILSON SEWING MACHINE SUIT.

The case of Logar H. Roots, of Arkansas, against William J. Wilson, of the Wilson Sewing Machine Company, Wallingford, Conn., was concluded before Judge Moran, Jan. 12, in Chicago, the court giving a decree in favor of the complainant. Mr. Roots, prior to Nov., 1883, purchased \$86,000 worth of the stock of the Wilson Sewing Machine Company. The total stock was \$300,000, and in addition to the \$86,000, Root's friends owned \$50,000 in shares. Of the \$86,000, also \$50,000 was stock, which had belonged to Wilson personally. On Nov. 13, 1883, Roots entered into an agreement with Wilson to buy the remainder of the stock held by Wilson, some \$34,500 worth, if the factory at Wallingford would turn out 300 machines a week. The manufacture of this number of machines was a condition precedent to the sale. As an earnest of good faith Wilson placed the stock in the hands of Mr. Lyman J. Gage, and Roots put \$40,000 worth of bonds into the Sewing Machine Company, in Mr. Gage's keeping. The latter were to be paid over to Wilson, in exchange for the stock, when the factory should turn out 300 machines a week. They were secured by real estate in this city. The present suit was brought by Roots to rescind the contract on the ground that the factory did not turn out 300 machines. He also alleges bad faith on the part of Wilson and a non-compliance with the terms of the contract. Wilson filed a cross bill asking to have Roots compelled specifically perform his agreement. Judge Moran ordered a decree rescinding the contract on the original bill and dismissed Wilson's cross bill.



OLD DUTCH CHAIR IN THE NEW MUSEUM AT AMSTERDAM.

OUR MERCHANTS AND SILVER.

The following communication was dispatched to Senator Everts, at Washington, January 19:

To the Honorable William M. Everts, United States Senate, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: Without expressing any opinion as to the subsequent course of legislation on the subject, the undersigned, merchants of the city of New York, believe that it is of the utmost importance for the interests of the country that the present compulsory coinage of silver should be suspended, and beg you to exert your great influence in the Senate to that end.

Among the firms who signed the document were: H. B. Claflin & Co.; Arnold, Constable & Co.; Lewis Bros. & Co.; W. & J. Sloane; C. S. Jaffray & Co.; Dunham, Buckley & Co.; Tefft, Weller & Co.; Dale, Reed & Cooley; Mills & Gibb; the Barbour Bros.; J. H. Lane & Co.; Hadden & Co.; Wilmerding, Hoguet & Co.

New York, Jan. 15.

Messrs. Marshall Field & Co., Chicago, in response to the inquiries of our representative, stated that the characteristics of the spring patterns of carpets show lighter tints than for the corresponding period of last year, are lighter in hues, some new colors, such as shrimp, which combines well with purple and crimson, and a skillful combination of colors showing a decided advance in artistic taste.

VENETIAN BLINDS.

Among the many articles used by our grandmothers, and still in use all over the continent of Europe, are Venetian blinds, and, as yet there has been nothing invented or introduced which so fully answers the purpose, and by which light and ventilation can be so easily and instantly regulated. Many improvements have been made on them within a short time, and as now finished are as near perfection as can be. Messrs. Louderback & Co. will be pleased to furnish all information desired, and send samples to select from. They are an old Philadelphia house, long established in this particular branch.

Hardcastle, Rule & Co., cotton traders, and the Blantyre Weaving Company, of Glasgow, Scotland, have failed. The liabilities of Hardcastle, Rule & Co. are \$150,000, and those of the Blantyre Weaving Company \$100,000.